

American government to try to define through judicial fiat what products these software engineers, who are geniuses, should give to the American consumers. Products should be defined by what the American consumers want, not what the Federal Government wants.

I want to touch now on a message from the folks who work at Microsoft, Madam Speaker. I represent thousands of people who get up in the morning and work commonly 12 to 14 hour days to try to bring their creative talents to bear to create new products for the American people.

They have done a good job and they are doing a good job and they are going to continue to do a good job creating new products for America. The reason is that the people at Microsoft in Redmond, Washington, are not going to be distracted, they are not going to be deterred, they are not going to stop their efforts to continue that creative growth by the fact that this case will go to the appellate court because they realize this is the first step in a long process. They trust the American appellate courts and trust that ultimately the will of the American consumers will prevail in this case.

Microsoft should continue to be creative and should not be broken up.

THE CENSUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, this is Census Day plus three. My message to the American people is that if they have not already filled out and returned their census questionnaire, do it today. Do it this very minute. It is everyone's civic responsibility. I am very pleased that the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), the Chair of the Subcommittee on Census, joins me in this message.

□ 1900

As of today, over 53 percent of Americans have responded to the census, with 47 percent to go. To the remaining 47 percent, I say please do their civic responsibility and fill out the form.

This was going to be our main message tonight here on the floor. But instead, regretfully, and with some disbelief, we must also stand here and ask what is going through the minds of some of our colleagues both here in the House of Representatives, in the Senate, and on the campaign trail.

With 47 percent of the American people still not being heard from, 2 days before census day, we have Members of Congress, who should all know better, standing up, holding press conferences and telling the American people that the census is optional.

Is it that some in the majority are undercount-aholics, they cannot help themselves but they want an inaccurate census? We have Members of Congress saying that they "believe in voluntarily cooperating" with the Government; but, beyond that, they will not follow the law. Since when did following the law in this country become a voluntary thing? Do they want participation, or do they want to make participation in the census optional?

What is really disingenuous is the fact that most of the questions on the long form have been around for decades. What is really amazing with this newfound concern about the census is that, over 2 years ago, really 3 years ago also, the content of the long and short forms and while it was being finalized, every single Member of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate received a detailed list of the questions to be asked, including a description of the need for asking it, along with the specific legal requirement supporting it.

Notification of Congress is required by Title 13, for a very good reason. That is to prevent the very situation that we face today, major leaders in our country literally telling the American people that the census is optional.

Members of Congress, every single Member of Congress, received this book "Preparing for the Census: Questions Planned for Census 2000, Federal Legislative and Program Uses." They received this book in 1997, and they received it in 1998. I know that all of the Members who are complaining about this census received it. Do they not read their mail?

The time for input and to ask questions was when we were formulating the census, not now, not during the census, not days before census day. The questions asked by the census represent a balance between the needs of our Nation's communities and the needs to keep the time and effort required to complete the form to a minimum.

Only information required by Congress, not the Census Bureau, but required by Congress to manage and evaluate Federal programs is collected by the census. Federal and State funds for schools, employment services, housing assistance, road construction, day-care, hospitals, emergency services, programs for seniors, and much more are distributed based on these census figures. We must all work to make them as correct as possible.

We should remember that the Census Bureau has gone to great effort to make both the short and long forms as brief as possible. The 2000 Census short form contains eight questions, down from nine in 1990, and it takes about 10 minutes to fill it out. Ten minutes every 10 years to perform our civic duty on the needs in our community, is that too much to ask? It is shorter than 1990.

Also, the 2000 Census long-term contains 53 questions, down from 57 in 1990. We have the shortest long form in decades. It is four questions less than the 1990 Census.

The only new questions in the census were added to really evaluate welfare reform, and the question that was added is asking grandparents how many of them are caregivers. Does the Senator from Mississippi think that this question should be optional?

I am a little bit confused, because the same people who today are making such a fuss over the long form just 6 months ago literally tried to add a question to the short form, which everyone has to complete. Some of the Senators raising questions also cosponsored an amendment offered by Senator HELMS which would have asked every American what their marriage status was and add it to the short form.

Come on Senator, the head of the Senate, he cannot have it both ways. He cannot be lobbying for additional questions and then turn around and say that it is too long, that answering them should be optional.

Some of my friends who have been with me fighting for an accurate census, and many of them are on the floor with me tonight, they know because they were there when opponents of an accurate census threatened to shut down the Government twice over the census and the budget and a flood relief bill was held hostage, and we had to have the anti-modern count language removed.

Listen, believe me, these people who have fought to get the census forward to this point, they believe that the actions that are taking place now are intentional sabotage, the equivalent of a statistical shutdown of the Government by a small fraction of the GOP.

I really do not believe that, and I do not want to believe it. I think the answer is much simpler. I think the people criticizing the long form either do not know or maybe do not care how essential this information is to solving the problems of the people of our country. If they do not know what the problems are, then they do not have to spend the resources and the time and effort to correct the problems.

Let us look at the plumbing question that some of the Senators have raised. Well, it may shock some Senators but there are places in this country where Americans do not have plumbing, in the Colonias in Texas, on Indian reservations. And I really do say that in rural communities, even in Mississippi, what some elected officials are essentially saying is that they do not care and that they do not want to know about the problems. If they do not know about the substandard housing in America, then we will not direct the resources to correct it.

But maybe some of these Members who have raised questions should talk

to some of the Alaskan representatives and hear what Alaskans have to say or had to say when the census removed a question on sanitation from the long form. They want it added again because they have plumbing problems and a lack of adequate plumbing in many places in Alaska.

Or let us look at question 17 concerning a person's physical, mental, or emotional condition in the last 6 months. Are some Members saying they do not want to know how big a problem it is, how many disabled Americans there are in this country?

I would like to remind the House that these questions are essentially the same questions approved by Ronald Reagan and former President Bush except that there are fewer questions than the questions in 1990.

In the information age, we need reliable information in order to make good decisions for this Nation. Some Members of Congress must be stuck in the 18th century. They do not seem to want to know how America is doing. Without good data, we cannot administer the laws of this country fairly. Their comments are rash, appropriate, and just plain wrong.

I want to take the time to read excerpts from some of the editorials that have appeared since Governor Bush joined with some of his colleagues and declared the census optional.

From the Sacramento Bee on April 1: "Trashing the Census. Irresponsible Bush Comments Could Sabotage the Count." That was the headline. From the New York Times, April 1, and I quote from the headlines: "Civic Duty and the Census. Some Congressional Republicans are Seriously Undermining the 2000 Census." From today's Atlanta Constitution: "Keep the Census From Becoming Political Fodder and Participate" is the headline.

I further quote: "Participation in the census may also be harmed by political grandstanding. Presidential candidate George W. Bush and Senate Majority Leader TRENT LOTT have criticized the long form. The alternative as urged by Bush, LOTT, and company would be to operate the government informally . . ."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHERWOOD). The Chair will remind all Members that it is not in order in debate to refer to individual Members of the Senate.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was reading from an editorial headline.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The same rule applies whether it is the Members' own words or quotations from another person.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Same rule from an editorial headline.

I thank the Chair for making that point.

Mr. Speaker, from Friday's Journal Sentennial in Milwaukee, "Census too

Important to Ignore" is the headline, "There are also plenty of members of Congress who are now in a huff, saying they sympathize with citizens threatening to fill out their forms. One wonders what these guardians of the public good were doing when they reviewed and apparently approved of the same questions they are now complaining about."

A certain Senator from the other body who ran for President and lost said and did yesterday what a lot of Members of Congress should do. This particular Senator urged all Americans to fill out the entire census form and to follow the law. I agree with him. And he was a Republican. He says, please fill it out.

The good news is that the Census Bureau will follow the law. It will try to get the long form questions answered, because the professionals at the bureau do what the law says, the law Congress passes. They will go out and try to get an accurate photo of this country and report back to Congress.

I guess we now know why the 2000 Census was designated an emergency in last year's budget. We just did not know that some Members of Congress were the ones who would be creating the emergency.

On average, the long form takes a little over half an hour to complete. Only information needed to manage or evaluate government programs is collected by the census. \$180 billion a year in Federal money depends on census data. That is close to \$2 trillion over the decade. Clearly, that is reason enough to fill out the form.

I urge every American, every resident in America, to fill out the form. Do not leave it blank. Do not leave their future and their community be blank. Be part of the civic responsibility of this country. Please fill out the form.

I have with me many members of the Census Task Force who have diligently worked for an active census, one that includes all of the residents of America.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), who has been a great leader on this issue.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for yielding. I want to congratulate her on her efforts, and I want to thank her for allowing me to say a few words on this important topic.

First of all, I want to commend all Americans who have already taken the initiative and sent their census forms in. Congratulations. I thank them for their efforts. They have shown that people across this country know the value of the census and know their obligation and responsibility. I thank them for doing their part in making everyone count in this country.

The last update shows, as of tonight, that 53 percent nationally has been the

response. While that is more than half that have responded, we are hoping and we will continue to work at a 70 percent response rate. So we still have a long way to go.

In Texas, we had a 48 percent response. We are hoping for 66 percent. We still have a long way to go.

I represent 13 counties in South Texas. My district's response rate per county has been as low as 29 percent in Zapata County and as high as 52 and 53 percent in both Bexar County and Comal and Guadalupe counties.

Especially where the initial rate is low, we must work hard to make sure that everyone gets counted. This week I spent the Census Day on Saturday at a particular restaurant in San Antonio at the Pico de Gallo Restaurant. The business community came forward providing both a little coffee and pastry for individuals to help fill out those forms.

We are going to continue to work on the communities. I am going to ask the leaderships throughout the 13 counties that I represent to reach out and do everything they can to make sure that everyone gets counted. This was a great example on some of our activities that we have had the private sector participating as well as the public sector.

I want to take also this opportunity to congratulate the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and indicate in terms of the difficulty that we are having especially with elected officials of all people that should be responsible and not be making irresponsible comments.

I want to highlight the fact that there has been some criticism about the report and about the census this year, when, in actuality, as indicated by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) the 2000 Census form is virtually the same census form as 1990, with the exception that it has got fewer questions.

□ 1915

So when we look in terms of the criticism, especially from a lot of the Republicans, you need to acknowledge the fact that under Bush and in the previous decade we had even more questions. The 2000 census short form contains eight questions. In 1990, it had nine questions. In the year 2000 census form, the large form has 53 questions, down from 57 questions. So it is important that we bring those questions down.

Once again I want to also highlight as the gentlewoman from New York did a beautiful job of pinpointing the importance of those questions and the long form that goes to one out of every six individuals. That long form allows us an opportunity to be able to identify a lot of the things that are critical in our country.

For one, in terms of family needs and community needs. I head the task force

on health care for the Hispanic Caucus. One of the things that we are real conscious about is community health centers. This data will help identify the need for and/or the lack of services in community mental health.

And so it becomes real critical that these questionnaires are sent back. When we talk about veterans and the disabled, those individuals that receive SSI, those individuals that are elderly, that are looking forward in terms of Social Security, that data is extremely helpful for this country to be able to identify how many expected over 65 are we going to be having, how many people are disabled, how many veterans we have out there in the country that are in need and disabled, in need of services.

All those types of questions that are there are there for a purpose. The question that sometimes comes to light is the question regarding plumbing. We all assume that we all have plumbing, but I am here to tell you that that is not the case in every community. We still have colonias, I have them in Bexar County, in South Bexar County, in the metropolitan areas and I have them in Starr and a lot of the other counties in the rural areas.

Those types of questions are critical to make sure we identify those areas that are in need and especially when it comes to zeroing in on identifying resources that are needed. In fact, some of the counties that have not responded are some of the counties that are most in need, that need to be worked on; and we need to look at a little more closely. I am going to encourage you once again to please look at your form right now, and I would ask that you seriously look at filling that out as quickly as possible so that we do not have to send people out there to make sure that we help.

If you need help, I would also ask that you call my congressional offices, both in Roma in Starr County in Texas and San Diego in Duval County in Texas and San Antonio. I would ask you to call our offices if you need any help and assistance in doing those forms.

In closing, I just want to thank the gentlewoman from New York for allowing us the opportunity to mention how critical this is. I also want to submit for the RECORD a letter that we will be sending to one of the governors in our State that has made some comments that we feel are very irresponsible.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, April 4, 2000.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
Governor, State of Texas, State Capitol, Austin,
TX.

DEAR GOVERNOR BUSH: We are writing to express our deep concern over recent statements you reportedly made regarding the conduct of the 2000 census. As you know, the Republican leadership in the Congress has criticized the information sought in the census forms and has even encouraged Ameri-

cans to leave some of the information blank if they find the questions objectionable. You joined congressional Republicans in that criticism last week by agreeing that if Americans are uncomfortable with the information they requested, they should leave those questions blank. Collectively, these statements have the effect, intended or not, of depressing the census count.

We believe your criticism of the information sought in the census forms is seriously misinformed. The 2000 census forms are virtually the same as the census forms used in 1990, with one exception: They ask fewer questions. The 2000 census short form contains 8 questions, down from 9 in 1990. The 2000 census long form contains fifty-three questions, down from fifty-seven in 1990. The 2000 long form is the shortest long form in decades. Moreover, the Census Bureau sent the forms to the Republican-controlled Congress for approval in both 1997 and 1998, and not a single privacy concern was raised.

You have opposed the Census Bureau's plan to use modern statistical methods to correct the 2000 census. Those methods were developed by the Census Bureau professionals at the direction of Congress in conjunction with the National Academy of Sciences, and have been found to be the best way to correct the undercount and overcount of the population that has plagued prior censuses. The correction to the census is about fairness. The 1990 census undercounted a disproportionate percentage of minority populations (e.g., Hispanics, African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans), resulting in Texas being short-changed \$1 billion in federal funds that went elsewhere. Despite the best efforts of the Census Bureau, it is projected that even a greater number of Americans will be missed in the 2000 census.

Tenuous support of the census will hurt our home State of Texas. A recent study showed that Texas stands to lose around \$2 billion over the next decade if the correction to the census is not made. Those funds go to the very heart of family values: schools, employment services, housing assistance, road construction, day care facilities, hospitals, emergency services, programs for seniors, and much more.

In opposing the use of modern statistical methods to correct the census, you have consistently said that you favor a full and accurate count. However, a full and accurate count has proven unachievable under the best circumstances, and becomes impossible when leading public officials denigrate the census itself. Your recent statements suggesting that Americans need not complete the census are counterproductive. Thus far, the State of Texas has the fourth lowest response rate to the census of any State. We still have a chance to urge Texans (and all Americans) to fill out their forms.

We strongly urge you to clarify your position regarding the census and stop encouraging Americans to leave census forms blank. Furthermore, given the numerous public statements questioning the need to complete census forms, in the event of an undercount, we urge you to reconsider your opposition to a statistical correction to the census so that all Americans are counted.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN B. MALONEY,
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
GENE GREEN,
SILVESTRE REYES,
MAX SANDLIN,
CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ,
RUBEN HINOJOSA.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. I thank the gentleman for his comments and his hard work.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) represents a great State which unfortunately was undercounted in 1990. He has worked hard over the past several years with many innovative programs and ideas to make people aware of the census and to improve the count in his State and in the country. I thank him for his leadership.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I am here not to point fingers; rather, to encourage all Americans to complete and return their census forms. When I hear people saying, "Don't bother to fill out your long form," and we seem to be hearing a lot of that lately, I am incredulous. What am I missing here? To not do so would be like driving down the road and throwing \$100 bills out the window. I just cannot afford to do this, and I have yet to meet anybody in the circles I travel in who can.

If I want to talk in broad strokes, I can say that nationwide the Commerce Department estimates that 4 million people were overlooked in the 1990 count. This figure represents a shocking disenfranchisement of 1.6 percent of the American population and the figures for minorities were significantly worse. A full 5 percent of Hispanics were simply overlooked, 4.4 percent of blacks were never counted, and 4.5 percent of Native Americans were ignored.

Quite clearly far too many minority Americans were denied the representation that is their birthright. If I want to talk about the State of Texas, the 1990 census resulted in the second highest undercount of any State. Not only in 1990 but for a full 20 years, almost half a million Texans were inadequately represented in their government and received only a fraction of the Federal funds that they were due.

The undercount meant that Texas alone was deprived of \$1 billion of Federal funds. An equally inaccurate census in the year 2000 could result in a loss of \$2 billion to our great State of Texas. If I were to narrow my focus even more to the area that I represent, South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley communities stand to lose far more this go-around than the last. The 15th Congressional District was the 23rd most undercounted district in the Nation. The miscount in 1990 meant that 25 schools in my district were not built, and over 850 teachers were not hired through the course of that decade. Over the course of the past 10 years, our school districts have lost well over \$78 billion in Federal funding that would have otherwise been allocated to educate our children in South Texas.

Mr. Speaker, the 1990 undercount also resulted in missed opportunities for health care and senior programs as each individual in my district lost

\$2,037, or a total of \$46 million over the course of the decade in Federal resources. In short, what we do not receive as our fair share has real implications for our congressional district. My constituents lose too much if they are not counted.

Why would we choose to do that? I think we have learned from the past about why we need an accurate census count. Again, let me ask, what am I missing when I hear people essentially saying, Don't bother to ask for what is yours? If a bank misallocated someone's hard-earned funds, I am certain no one would act so passively.

Representation in American government cannot be contingent on the affluence of your neighborhood or the color of your skin. This is a sanctioned disempowerment of American minorities and cannot be allowed to continue. We must have a census that not only attempts to count Americans but one that makes the people count.

In closing, I want to say, Mr. Speaker, by not completing the form thoroughly and completely, we are allowing ourselves to become third-class citizens without a voice in our government. The census is in our hands. It is simple. Abide by the law, fill out the form, and make yourself count.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD an editorial from the Atlanta Journal Constitution that says, "To find fault with those queries at this late date is a cheap shot. The alternative would be to operate government uninformed of its people's needs."

[From the Atlanta Journal Constitution, April 3, 2000]

CONSTITUTION: KEEP THE CENSUS FROM BECOMING POLITICAL FODDER AND PARTICIPATE

Roughly half of America's households did their civic duty and answered the U.S. Census Bureau's Year 2000 postal survey by its April 1 deadline. That level of participation is not nearly good enough if America is to get the accurate picture of itself essential to governing fairly and efficiently at local, state and federal levels.

Fortunately, the bureau still has a "final, final deadline" for mail and e-mail replies. It's April 11, the day it will send out its enumerators to count Americans who didn't respond. So if you have yet to fill out your census form, please do so and mail it this week.

Participation in the census may also be harmed by the political grandstanding it continues to inspire. Presidential candidate George W. Bush and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) have criticized the long census—sent to one in six American households—as some sort of government intrusion on privacy.

However, the Census Bureau takes very seriously its responsibility to keep individual census responses confidential. Leakers inside will be sought out and prosecuted, as will hackers on the outside. In fact, the bureau is working with leading computer-security experts to make sure its data remain untapped.

Is this year's census survey exceptionally burdensome or intrusive, as its critics sug-

gest? No, the questions on the long form are almost all similar to those asked in previous censuses, including the 1990 census conducted when Bush's father was president. And every question on this year's long form was presented to members of Congress for their comments two years ago. To find fault with those queries at this late date is a cheap shot.

The information being gathered will be used to redraw political districts, calculate how government benefits like Medicare are to be shared equitably, and predict public needs such as mass transit, roads, libraries, schools, fire and police protection. Census figures from 1990 helped federal emergency officials determine quickly where shelters were most needed after Hurricane Andrew smashed south Florida in 1993.

The alternative, as urged by Bush, Lott & Co., would be to operate government uninformed of its people's needs.

Mr. Speaker, I would now like to call upon a great leader on the census and many other areas, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK). She helped organize a bipartisan hearing on the census and has worked very hard for an accurate count.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. I want to thank the gentlewoman from New York who has unselfishly led our initiatives here in the Congress along with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) on the census, and while she has, she has kept up with it, she has monitored it.

Mr. Speaker, all Americans should have their eyes focused on us here tonight. We are here begging the American public to return their census forms. I say begging, Mr. Speaker, because it is the most important thing that we will work on in 10 years' time. This is our opportunity to be counted. If we miss this opportunity, then we should not complain about the status of things in these good old United States.

I want to thank all those people who have taken the time to return their forms and to say to them, Good for you. You have come forward to be counted.

Those who did not, I want to say to you, continue to work on it, fill them out and return it. Do not let anyone discourage you from returning your census forms. Do not let anyone convince you that you need not fill out the forms completely. They are underestimating your intelligence when someone tells you, Fill out what you want to, it is not important, or it is invasive, or it is invading your privacy.

Do not let anyone underestimate your intellectual ability and say that to you. The ball is in your court. Each one of you, one by one. One by one you must make a difference in your community, and you must make a difference in this Nation by setting us on a new path for the new century.

Our message to the American people is if you have not already filled it out and returned it, do it today. Do not wait any longer. Another minute might be too late. So do it today.

As of last night, I am told that over 53 percent of Americans had completed and sent in their census form. This is pretty good news, Mr. Speaker, but it is not good enough. We have to continue until we get as much as 100 percent would not be too much. We want everyone to be counted. The Constitution says that anyone who is in this country should be counted.

Now, there are people in this country, Mr. Speaker, that should think of it historically. They were not counted as a full person. African Americans like myself were not counted as a full person. They were counted as three-fifths of a man. Now they must go forward with all deliberate speed, with all urgency to be sure that they are counted, so that we will not leave anyone behind.

If they have not completed their questionnaire, if they need help, they should get it right away. There is too much at stake, Mr. Speaker. Too much at stake. For example, in my district, we have a need for housing. So many people in my district are without adequate housing. So many people in my district, Mr. Speaker, are without adequate transportation. So many people in my district need better health care. The mortality rate is high in certain segments of my community. The morbidity rate is very high in certain areas of my community. They should understand that unless they stand up and be counted, it will continue.

So many people complain, we do not have good marketing here, we do not have anywhere to go and purchase our products, we have to go all the way out of our district to find a store. We have to go all the way to another county to find a good place to shop. I am saying they must take the bull by the horns, because all of these market studies, Mr. Speaker, are made from census numbers. Population does count. It is so important.

Last week, we had people to say just before census day, April 1, I think they utilized, Mr. Speaker, they thought everybody was a fool, that it was almost April Fool's Day.

□ 1930

They figured that people should not return their forms. It was foolhardy, and they are unwise, Mr. Speaker, for anyone in government or out of government, especially people with high status in our government, to say, do not fill out all of the census. After all, this very Congress allocated millions of dollars to be spent for the census. They thought it was important. They were not just doing this for show, but to be sure that everyone is counted. Now they come back and say, do not take the time to fill out these forms. It is unconscionable, Mr. Speaker, for any of us who represent government or who represent the people to say to the people, do not fill out the form. Shame on

those who say it. It should not be repeated. They should go back and say to people, I am ashamed to have taken a constitutional oath and to say, do not follow the Constitution of this country. The Constitution of this country says everyone should be counted. They even made it against the law not to be counted. They even made it against the law for people to take confidential information that is on the census form and betray the public trust by giving it away. It cannot be done.

So Congress has worked very hard on this. The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) has spent a great deal of her time, and we have all spent a great deal of time in all of the caucuses to ask the people to fill out the form. The Census Bureau has worked very, very hard. They have done so much.

I have been following the census, Mr. Speaker, for many years. I have seen the census in its good times and in its bad times. I have seen it when the Government was sued because of an inaccurate account. We do not want that to happen anymore. The 2000 Census is not a hard form to fill out. It only has 8 questions; there were 9 in 1990. My colleagues have heard us talk about it this evening. We are just saying to anyone, to anyone who is a governor, who is a legislator, who is a Senator or Congress person, shut up, if you are telling the American public the census should not be filled out. Anyone's position should be to support the census.

So let us encourage everyone, because there is so much at stake with the census.

So we say, well, why should we advise the American public again? We are constantly advising them. They are going to come to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). Her people are going to come and knock on her door and say look, we did not get what we needed this year. We lost money that the Federal Government should be sending us. They will be going to her. My constituents are coming to me; my colleagues' constituents are coming to them.

They want to know, why is it that some other city, why is it that the State of New York received another representative? Why? Why did we not receive one here in Georgia or Alabama or Florida? Do my colleagues know why? Because people were not counted, because the census count tells us whether or not we will have another representative in Congress. It will even say to the Government, maybe we will not have another representative from Florida, or we might have another one, or maybe New York will lose another one. Why? Because the people were not there to be counted.

Then look at the State legislature. We look to see that we have a good State representative in the State legislature. We turn around and look, they are not there. Why are they not there?

Because people did not come out and be counted. The Government cannot just go around and make people. We have to be counted and we must return the forms; and if we return the forms, we can get the numbers that we want.

We cannot ask too many personal questions. There are not any personal questions when it comes down to the expending of Federal money, because they just cannot give money on a whim. That money comes from population counts; it comes from need. So if one's district in one's community, in one's neighborhood does not get what it is supposed to get, then it is all our fault. The ball is in our court; it is in our court. So we may as well get out there and hastily return the forms.

We are so very glad to be here tonight, I say to my colleague from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), to say to the people back home, if we keep talking about good schools, we need better schools, we need more teachers; then if that is the case, education is the key, if we need that, then we must return our census forms. How can they count children who were missed in the last census? The Subcommittee on the Census has worked very hard to be sure that children are counted. So many people neglect to list the children in their homes, so when it is time to build schools, they are left out. Then the next thing they do is they call the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). Look, our schools are crowded, we do not have enough teachers, we do not have enough supplies.

I want to end this by saying that if we return our census forms, we will be better served by our government, because there is an old saying which is that whatever we do, we should stand up and be counted, because as an individual or as a community, we will benefit from that count.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for this Special Order tonight so that we can help America understand the importance of the census. Those of us who did not return our forms, do it now, and we say, good for you.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the RECORD an editorial from March 29 from the Seattle Times Company, and they write:

The questions provide a telling snapshot of America and help determine how large pots of tax dollars are spent on social programs.

Further, they say,

Smile. A big family portrait is being painted with census numbers. Nothing scary about that.

They go on to encourage everyone to fill out their form.

[From the Seattle Times, Mar. 29, 2000]

OVERLY OVERWROUGHT ABOUT THE 2000 CENSUS

On any given day, citizens are bombarded with dozens of legitimate, stress-producing worries. The U.S. Census Bureau, even its

much-maligned long-form questionnaire, ought not be one of them.

Census questionnaires have been mailed to 120 million American households. The seven-question short form was sent to most households; a longer, more-detailed, 52-question form was delivered to one in six households.

Then the yowling began—The Snoops! The invasion of privacy!

The complaints are nine parts hype, one part hooley.

Two important developments have occurred since the last census was taken in 1990. The long form got shorter by four questions, and talk radio got louder.

In fairness to those with census jitters, more people nowadays are concerned about personal privacy. Frequent calls by solicitors and marketing companies wear down a person's patience and goodwill.

Remember, though, the census is the head count prescribed by the Constitution.

The people who make money by whipping up fear—and those who buy into it—substitute paranoia for logic.

The loudest concerns focus on question 31 on the long form, which asks people to report wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses or tips from jobs. This is not a scary question. The federal government, the Internal Revenue Service, already knows the answer for individuals. The Census Bureau is looking for data to report in the aggregate.

Before people allow themselves to be whipped into an unnecessary froth, remember the manner in which the data is reported. It is much like a series of USA Today headlines, "We're older," "We're more mobile, more diverse" and so on. The census doesn't announce that Joe Dokes at 123 Pine Street does or says anything. Nor does the Census Bureau share personal information with other agencies.

The questions provide a telling snapshot of America and help determine how large pots of tax dollars are spent on social programs, highways and mass transit, and how congressional seats are distributed among the states.

Smile. A big family portrait is being painted with numbers. Nothing scary about that.

Mr. Speaker, my next speaker is a very diligent and outstanding member of the Subcommittee on the Census, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), who has been a great leader on getting an accurate count.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as I begin, let me just first of all indicate how delightful it has been to work under the leadership of two dynamic ladies on this issue, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on the Census, and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), who is the chairperson of the Congressional Black Caucus's Task Force on the Census.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues in urging the American people to fill out their census forms. Do something very simple: fill the forms out and send them in. Nothing more, nothing less.

Now, I know that the governor of Texas and others have suggested in recent days that if you have the long form, then maybe you should not answer all of the questions. Now, there are some people who might hear these

comments and decide that they should not bother to fill out the long form. My response to those individuals is that there is too much at stake for you not to fill them out.

The census, as we all know, is about determining what communities will revenue schools, new nursing homes, job training centers, help with transportation infrastructure, and much more. It is about determining representation and whether or not a State will even gain or perhaps lose a congressional seat, a seat in the State legislature, city council, or on the county board. There is simply too much at stake to risk not filling out the form. Those who would suggest that the questions are too intrusive already know that this information cannot be sold or shared with INS or any other investigatory agency.

For example, the question regarding in-home plumbing is asked to determine how many homes actually have modern plumbing, yet there are those who would suggest that it is too intrusive. Well, it is not too intrusive if one lives in a community where there are no sewer lines, where there is no running water, where there is no in-home plumbing. Plus, they already know that the responses are protected by law.

I would also suggest to people that perhaps the slogan often used by the Panthers several years ago would be appropriate when they said that you are either part of the solution or you are part of the problem. If you do not fill out the form, then I can assure you that you are part of the problem.

We can ill afford to allow forces opposed to an accurate census count to suppress the number of people returning their forms. In my own city, the city of Chicago, we lost millions of dollars in Federal funds as a result of the 1990 undercount. According to the Census Bureau, at least 10 million people, including at least 113,831, were undercounted in the State of Illinois, 81,000 in Cook County alone; and 68,000 in the City of Chicago were not counted. Many of those missed were women and children who live in minority communities. Because of the undercount, every Chicago and Cook County citizen was shortchanged, shortchanged on money to prepare roads, fix bridges; for schools, parks, and job training. Perhaps the most egregious shortchanging would be that of political representation.

So when people in powerful positions encourage people to give up their most basic of all rights, then all of America loses.

So again, I commend the gentlewoman from New York for arranging for this Special Order. I also want to thank all of my neighbors who are volunteers, people who are taking it upon themselves to go to the streets and encourage their neighbors and other peo-

ple in their community, to simply fill out the form, send them in, because the reality is if you are not counted, then you really do not count.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to be with my colleagues this evening on this Special Order.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

I would like to put into the RECORD the editorial from the Sacramento Bee in California. They are very critical of leaders who have come out against filling out the long census. They state, and I quote: "How harmful to this important civic exercise. How irresponsible and unpatriotic." They go on to say, "With their thoughtless comments, they feed mindless anti-government sentiment. Do they really think they can govern better by knowing less about America? They have done a disservice to the census and to the country." I would include that in the RECORD at this time.

[From the Sacramento Bee, April 1, 2000]

TRASHING THE CENSUS: IRRESPONSIBLE BUSH COMMENTS COULD SABOTAGE COUNT

Just two days ago before Census Day, as U.S. Census Bureau officials were urging Americans to cooperate in the crucial once-in-a-decade national count, Texas Gov. George Bush made their job harder. If he had the long census form, Bush told a campaign crowd, he's not sure he'd want to fill it out either. How harmful to this important civic exercise; how irresponsible and unpatriotic.

Bush's remarks come on the heels of Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott's advice to his fellow Americans not to answer any questions on the census long form that they believe invade their privacy. Taken together, those remarks by the leading Republican in Congress and the likely Republican presidential nominee can easily be interpreted as a deliberate attempt to sabotage the 2000 census. They raise questions about the integrity of the census that are unwarranted, unfair and irresponsible.

One in six households receives the census long form. Beyond the basic eight questions about the number, age, gender and race or ethnicity of people living in the household, the long form asks other questions designed to measure the well-being of Americans, to help government agencies to plan where to put schools or highways or health funding. Included in the long forms are 53 questions such as: How many bedrooms in the house? Has anyone been disabled by health problems in the last six months? Is there a telephone? What is the income of the household? Is there indoor plumbing?

By law the responses are strictly confidential. The U.S. Census cannot share individual household answers with the IRS, FBI, INS or any other government agency or private entity.

Moreover, every single question on the long and short forms is there because of a specific statutory requirement. Most of these questions have been on the form for decades. The only new question added since 1990 was put there at the behest of Republicans in Congress, including Lott. It asks grandparents whether they are caregivers for their grandchildren. The wording of each question was reviewed by Congress in 1997 and 1998. Lott, who now raises objections, pushed a resolution urging the Census Bureau to return to the short form a question about mar-

ital status that it had moved to the long form.

The census is the law of the land, enacted by the first Congress. When Bush says he wouldn't fill out the form, he's saying he's prepared to break the law. When Lott advises Americans not to answer questions they don't want to answer, he's telling them to break the law. And although both Lott and Bush limit their specific objections to the long form, the impact will inevitably reverberate more widely—to those who only receive the short form.

In Sacramento, census officials report that the response to the census is already lagging. Only 39 percent of Sacramento households have returned the form so far. Every man, woman or child not counted costs \$1,600 in lost federal funds. That's money that would go to our schools and highways and mental health and police protection.

Participating in the census is a civic duty, like voting, serving on juries and defending the country. As duties go, it's not burdensome; for most people, filing out the long form is a once-in-a-lifetime chore. With their thoughtless comments that feed mindless anti-government sentiment—do they really think they can govern better by knowing less about America?—Bush and Lott have done a disservice to the census and the country.

Mr. Speaker, our next speaker is the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA), who is a new Member, but already a great leader on the census and other issues.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for the outstanding job she has done in leading us, in leading the Nation on what is so important to all of us and the effect it is going to have on this Nation over the next decade. It is important for someone to take that leadership role, and she has taken that role. She has gone out to the various States telling all of us of the importance of the count. I commend her for her efforts.

Now, the responsibility is up to us. The responsibility is up to all Americans. This is not about political wedges, this is about improving the quality of life.

Some of us like myself who are veterans have to remember that we serve this country; and veterans have fought so we would enjoy those freedoms, those freedoms that we have today; and those freedoms meant the ability to participate in a process. We have a responsibility to participate in that process. It is our American duty, it is our American responsibility, it is our civic duty to participate in this process.

Right now, Mr. Speaker, 53 percent to 56 percent have responded. That is not enough. I ask the rest of the American people to please respond to what is important, what will guide this Nation not only now, but in the future. It is the responsibility of churches, our community organizations; it is a partnership between business and ourselves to make sure that everyone counts. If we hear anyone that states not to turn in the form, not to fill it out, then they

are being irresponsible. They are not doing their civic duties.

We have heard that from former governors that have indicated that, from other Members that have indicated that. We have to remember what the real responsibility is. I know, because in California alone, we have 52 Members that represent us. I have heard most of the constituents in California talk about the lack of money going back to the State of California.

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We are all going to fight for monies coming back to the State of California, and this is another vehicle of getting monies back to California by ensuring that an accurate count is done, that the Federal dollars are returned appropriately. If we do an accurate count, then the monies will be returned back to California.

We lost or have the potential of losing \$2.2 billion if we do not get an accurate count. In my district alone, we lost \$50 million over the last 10 years because an accurate count did not occur.

What does that mean to us? That means that we did not do good data-gathering, we did not participate in the process. We should have participated in the process. What does that mean? We did not get the educational services that we needed, we did not get the health care that was needed, we did not get the special ed that everybody talks about getting, and monies for construction and education, for our seniors and health centers that is so important to a lot of us.

It is important that we do that count to make sure that we take care of every aspect, including transportation and monies in the infrastructure. If we do not get monies in, what do we look at in California and the Inland Empire, which has the largest growth in the area? If we do not do an accurate count, how are we going to get the money back to our area?

We are asking for funds now. I am fighting and advocating for funds in that area. If we do an accurate count, at least there will be a pool of money so we can go back and put it into our area. It is important that we do that. It is important that we count everyone.

If we look at statistics that were done, African-Americans were undercounted in our communities. Latinos were undercounted. Asians, American Indians were undercounted. We have the responsibility that every American is counted. If we do not, California and the Nation loses.

I ask everyone to please complete that form. I know that it is easy to talk about the form being long and extensive, and the questions that are there. I had the long form. I completed the long form. It is important for others to do that.

For those who feel they do not know how to fill it out, please call the Cen-

sus. Call your congressional office. We know what it means to the State of California and what it means to the rest of the Nation when it comes to not only the congressional seats, State senate seats, assembly seats, local elected positions in our area.

It is not just about that, but it is about what is our civic responsibility. I want to remind all Americans, and I want Americans to remember those veterans who have fought for this country to assure that we enjoy those freedoms; who said, I fought for you to enjoy the freedoms that you have today. Exercise those rights. If we fail to exercise those rights, we fail to serve America.

I commend our leader, who has done an excellent job in this endeavor, to make sure that everybody in the Nation knows how important it is to all of us. It does not matter whether we are white, whether we are black, Asian, Native American Indians or Latinos, it is about Americans and our civic responsibility. It is about this Nation and what we stand to gain as a whole.

United we will conquer and do what is important for all of us. It is not about political wedges, it is about inclusion. This is about including everybody in that process. This is what we stand for, inclusion of everyone. I ask everyone to be included in this process and to participate.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I refer Members to an editorial from the New York Times on April 1. In it they criticize the congressional Republicans for undermining an accurate 2000 Census.

They state, and I quote, "These comments are irresponsible. Completing the Census form fully and accurately is not optional; it is a civic duty that is required by law."

I include this article for the RECORD. The article referred to is as follows:

[From the New York Times, Apr. 1, 2000]

CIVIC DUTY AND THE CENSUS

Some Congressional Republicans are seriously undermining the 200 census by suggesting that the national head count, which officially takes place today, is an invasion of privacy. That bizarre complaint could discourage the public from participating in a project that is crucial to the functioning of state and federal government. The question's on this year's long census form—including questions on household income, plumbing facilities and physical disabilities—have been part of the census for decades. The only new question asks for information on grandparents who are caregivers for children. In fact, this year's long form is the shortest one in 60 years. All answers on census forms are kept confidential. Yet Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska has suggested in recent days that people can simply ignore questions on the long form—which goes to one out of six American households—that they find intrusive. A spokesman for Senator Trent Lott, the majority leader, has made similarly inappropriate suggestions. Gov. George W. Bush of Texas has said that people should fill out the forms, but that if he received a long form, he was not sure he would want to fill

it out either. These comments are irresponsible. Completing the census form fully and accurately is not optional; it is a civic duty that is required by law. Senator Hagel now says that he does not want to encourage people to break the law, but will introduce legislation to make most of the questions on the long form voluntary.

The federal government has spent billions of dollars trying to produce an accurate count as response rates have continued to decline with each decennial count. Accuracy is critical because the census is used to apportion seats in Congress, draw legislative districts within the states and distribute more than \$185 billion in federal funds. The government uses information from the long form of the census to allocate money to communities for housing, school aid, transportation, services for the elderly and the disabled and scores of other programs. The data are also necessary to calculate the consumer price index and cost of living increases in government benefits.

When individuals fail to give complete information about their households, they risk shortchanging their communities of government aid that they may be entitled to. That is why many state and local government officials are working hard to increase census response rates in their communities. The mindless complaints of some politicians could well sabotage those efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), who is here representing the Asian Pacific American Caucus. Asians were terribly undercounted in the 1990 Census. The gentleman has been a leader on this issue.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York for yielding to me. I also take the time to honor her and recognize her tireless efforts on the Census. She has been a force for accurate counting. She has been a force for inclusion in the most basic American sense when Americans, all Americans, are counted.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my thanks to all Americans who have completed their forms so far. All who have performed their civic duty have been making a difference for their community and setting our Nation on the best path for this new century.

For those who have not returned the form and returned the Census questionnaires, I urge that they do so today.

As reported yesterday, more than 53 percent of all Americans have completed and sent in their Census forms. This is exciting news, and we must continue to work together with the Census Bureau, all elected officials working closely with the Census Bureau, and all elected officials at all levels of government working closely with the Census Bureau and with communities and neighborhoods across the Nation to reach out to the 47 percent of Americans who have yet to complete their Census questionnaire.

As reported, I represent the Asian Pacific American Caucus. I am chair of the Caucus for this Congress, and we have certainly been interested in this issue because we recognize that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders were undercounted.

I am pleased to report that in my own home area of Guam, in the 1990 Census, Guam's response rate was over 70 percent in the initial outreach, and I would have to say that it was one of the highest response rates in the Nation.

Regrettably, just last week, just days before Census day, we had Members of Congress and prominent leaders of the Republican party, people who ought to know better, tell the American public that somehow or other the Census or parts of the Census were optional. Over 2 years ago, every Member of Congress received a detailed list of the questions to be asked on the long form, including a description of the need for asking these questions and specific legal requirements supporting it, which Congress itself had passed supporting these questions.

The time for input on the questions was then. The time to achieve an accurate count is now. The Census Bureau has gone to great effort within the mandates of Congress to make the forms as brief as possible. The 2000 Census form, as has already been reported, contains eight questions, down from nine in 1990. The long form contains 53 questions, down from 57 in 1990, and is the shortest long form in history.

In this, the Information Age, we need reliable information in order to make good decisions for this Nation. Without good data, we cannot administer the laws of this country fairly. Yet, the Governor of Texas, along with prominent members of the other body, seems to imply that the Census is optional; that somehow or other people should not have to answer all of the questions, that people only have to obey those parts of the law which requires all Americans to fill out the Census which they are comfortable with.

Mr. Speaker, that a member of the other body said that he advised people not to answer questions they do not like, while the Governor of Texas said that he was not sure that he would fill out the entire Census form if he had received the long form, these actions are entirely irresponsible. Instead, Mr. Speaker, we should encourage all Americans to fill out their forms and to participate in the Census. It is important to have complete and accurate information about all Americans.

Even the question on plumbing has been derisively referred to in a number of media reports, but I want to tell the Members that if they come from a home without plumbing, it is no joke. We want government officials to know that there is a pattern of plumbing in our area, and when we are not hooked

to the sewer line, or if we use an out-house quite regularly, we want people to know that so government policymakers will respond to that reality in a responsible way.

I also want to take the time to thank the Census for the language assistance, particularly in communities where English is not the normal language of some people.

Some people say that we do not need to know everything, but I do think that demographic data is the raw material for making public policy, and I would rather that we craft a policy based upon knowledge of our population, rather than one that is based on incomplete knowledge.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would mention to Members a Washington Post March 31 editorial.

In this editorial, they call upon all Americans to fill out their Census form. I quote, "All kinds of harm will be done if the count is defective. A politician not seeking to score cheap political points at public expense might resist the temptation to demagogue, and instead urge citizens to turn in their forms. But in an election year such as this, that's apparently is too high a standard for some."

So they are critical of all elected officials that are urging people not to fill out their forms, that doing so is optional.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD this editorial from the Washington Post:

The editorial referred to is as follows:
[From the Washington Post, Mar. 31, 2000]

CENSUS BASHING

THE CENSUS always produces complaints that an intrusive government is asking for more information than it has a right to know. Usually the complaints are scattered and come from the fringe. But this year some radio talk show hosts have taken up the issue, and now some national politicians who otherwise yield to none in insisting on law and order are telling constituents not to answer questions they feel invade their privacy.

The Senate majority leader, Trent Lott, is one such. He believes that people ought to provide "the basic census information" but that if they "feel their privacy is being invaded by [some] questions, they can choose not to answer," his spokesman says. Likewise Sen. Chuck Hagel, whose "advice to everybody is just fill out what you need to fill out, and [not] anything you don't feel comfortable with." Yesterday, George W. Bush said that, if sent the so-called long form, he isn't sure he would fill it out, either.

And which are the questions that offend these statesmen? One that has been mocked seeks to determine how many people are disabled as defined by law, in part by asking whether any have "difficulty . . . dressing,

bathing, or getting around inside the home." when it mailed the proposed census questions to members of Congress for comment two years ago—and got almost no response—the bureau explained that this one would be used in part to distribute housing funds for the disabled, funds to the disabled elderly and funds to help retrain disabled veterans. Are those sinister enterprises? A much-debated question about plumbing facilities is used in part "to locate areas in danger of ground water contamination and waterborne diseases"; one about how people get to work is used in transportation planning. All have been asked for years.

Earlier this year, Mr. Lott's Senate complained 94 to 0 that a question about marital status had been removed from the basic census form. That was said to be a sign of disrespect for marriage. Come on. This is a critical period for the census. All kinds of harm will be done if the count is defective. A politician not seeking to score cheap political points at public expense might resist the temptation to demagogue and instead urge citizens to turn in their forms. But in an election year such as this, that's apparently too high a standard for some.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), who has been a great leader on this issue.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from New York has devoted tireless energy well beyond the call of duty to this extraordinarily important issue, and every American is indebted to her.

Mr. Speaker, I want to devote the few minutes I have to clarifying some issues.

April 1 has caused some confusion. It was not the deadline for getting people's form in, of course, it was the target date. The Census Bureau is still receiving mail. It costs twice as much to send people out to get the forms, and that is about to happen on April 15.

I had a Census job fair that drew thousands of people here last week, just so we could get a fair count. The way to save the government money, however, is, of course, to send it in so it will not cost us the tremendously extra money it does to send people out.

Irresponsible comments from the Republican majority or members of that majority may already have cost taxpayers more because it undermines millions of dollars that have been spent in advertisements and staff work to get people, to raise the count.

I include for the RECORD from the Washington Post the chart which informs people of why the questions are asked and why answering those questions is so important.

The chart referred to is as follows:

Questions on	Federal uses	Local impact
Income: Regarding wages and any other forms of income, including through public assistance programs.	Provides a measure of general economic health.	Identifies local areas eligible for grants for job training and other employment programs.

Questions on	Federal uses	Local impact
	Used to determine poverty status. Used to assess the need for various types of public assistance.	Guides funding for social services distributed to local agencies.
Mortgage costs: Regarding mortgage costs, taxes and other expenses covered (fire, hazard and flood insurance), and amount of monthly payments..	Used by the Department of Health and Human Services to assess housing assistance for elderly, disabled and low-income homeowners..	Needed to evaluate an area's qualification for federal housing assistance.
Plumbing facilities: Regarding plumbing facilities, including hot and cold piped water, flush toilets and a bathtub or shower..	Needed by Department of Energy to help study energy supply and use. Used by public health officials to locate areas in danger of ground water contamination, waterborne diseases..	Used as one of the selection criteria for local urban development grants. Used to allocate Section 8 and other federal housing subsidies to local governments. Used by state and local agencies to identify poor-quality housing.
Disabilities: Regarding long-lasting conditions such as blindness or a hearing impairment; difficulties with routine activities such as dressing or bathing; memory loss..	Used to distribute funds and develop programs for people with disabilities and the elderly.. Needed under the Americans With Disabilities Act to ensure comparable public transportation services..	Required under Housing and Urban Development Act to distribute funds for people with disabilities. Used by state and county agencies to determine eligible recipients under Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Mr. Speaker, public officials must perform as public officials, not as right-wing talk show hosts engaging in disinformation and conspiracy theories. Our job is to get an accurate Census. That is our constitutional duty.

I am pleased that Senator LOTT seemed to back off from his spokesman, who appeared to indicate that people should not have to answer the forms. He was a responsible thing for a leader for the majority in the Senate to do.

Where is Governor Bush, who said he is not sure people should fill out their forms? Does he know what side his bread is buttered on? Is he saying the residents are not entitled to all the services and funds entitled to them? What about the large Hispanic population, the highest undercount? What about his talk about children? Is that just talk, or does he not recognize that the greatest undercount was among children?

We should be advising the people that it is a violation of law. We have made it a felony, \$5,000 or 5 years, or both. It has never been used, but it should be reserved for people who knowingly use their high positions to advocate violation of the law through selective response. It should be used for people who themselves have confused the American public, as some public officials have done. It should be used for those who sabotage the constitutional requirement of an accurate Census.

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Our job is to help people understand why there is a long form; that they are not being asked these questions as individuals. It does not matter whether you yourself have indoor plumbing. It is being asked of you as a representative sample. Nobody can attach that answer to your name. If you are worried about people divulging information, do not worry about the census. Worry about the private sector. Worry about people on the Internet. It is no felony for them to give your name and address to everybody.

Nobody has ever heard of anybody giving your name, address or anything else from the census form.

It is cruel, it is cruel, to advise people not to fill in every answer in the long form. Sure, the government

should not know your business, but your business is not by your name. It allows us to find essentially what the statistical basis is for the answers you provide. These answers are worth approximately \$700 per person. That is not to be sneezed at.

A lot of folks have spent a lot of time and more than \$6 billion trying to get an accurate census. It ill behooves Members of this body to undercut that very important constitutional effort.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2418, ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK AMENDMENTS OF 1999

Mr. LINDER (during special order of Mrs. MALONEY of New York), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-557) on the resolution (H. Res. 454) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2418) to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend programs relating to organ procurement and transplantation, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3671, WILDLIFE AND SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

Mr. LINDER (during special order of Mrs. MALONEY of New York), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-558) on the resolution (H. Res. 455) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3671) to amend the Acts popularly known as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to enhance the funds available for grants to States for fish and wildlife conservation projects and increase opportunities for recreational hunting, bow hunting, trapping, archery, and fishing by eliminating opportunities for waste, fraud, abuse, maladministration, and unauthorized expenditures for administration and execution of those Acts, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ALL COLORADANS SHOULD FILL OUT THEIR CENSUS FORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. UNDERWOOD. I yield to the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), for yielding me this time, and I also want to thank my tireless colleague, the gentlewoman from the great State of New York (Mrs. MALONEY), for her work on the census.

Mr. Speaker, I have a short statement that I would like to share with my fellow Coloradans. I want to urge Coloradans to return their census forms. It is very important for our State and for the country.

Just last week, our State demographer, Jim Westkott, was saying Colorado may have as many as 330,000 residents than the latest estimate by the Census Bureau, an 8 percent difference between the State's estimate and the Census Bureau's latest extrapolation from the 1990 census returns.

Of course, it is the Census Bureau's numbers that are used for Federal purposes, for apportioning House seats amongst the States to allocating Federal funds for schools, transportation and other purposes. That is why it should concern everyone in our State, our State of Colorado, that the Census Bureau itself says its 1999 count of Coloradans missed some 66,000 people. That is why it is so important that this year's count be as accurate as possible, and that is why it is unfortunate that some members of the other body and other political figures have been making statements that could discourage people from being counted.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope everyone in Colorado, from Arboles and Antonito in the south to Virginia Dale and Peetz in the north and from Dinosaur and Dove Creek in the west to Wray and Holly in the east, plus everybody in between, will send back the census form and help make this the most complete and